

WINGSPREAD

Randolph Air Force Base ♦ Texas 60th Year ♦ No. 49 ♦ December 8, 2006

Christmas sunrise



Randolph enters another Christmas season with the tree lighting ceremony held on Nov. 30. For more photos of the event, see page 18. (Photo by Steve White)

AETC Med Group 2006 awards announced

By Bob Hieronymus
Wingspread staff writer

The Air Education and Training Command Medical Service Awards for 2006 were announced Friday. The 12th Medical Group's Health and Wellness Center won the Best Small Base Award for Health Promotions Programs and six of the Medical Group's people were singled out for individual awards: Lt. Col. Carol Andrews received the Maj. Gen. Barbara Brannon Nursing Leadership Award Maj. Arshad Qureshi received the Maxine Beatty Field Grade Award in Pharmacy Tech. Sgt. Andrew Flora received the Non-commissioned Officer award in Aerospace Physiology Tech. Sgt. Susanna Klein received the NCO award in

Bioenvironmental Engineering Senior Airman Abel Padilla-Loredo received the Olson/Wegner Award in Aerospace Medicine Airman First Class Vikas Kumar received the Airman award in Aerospace Physiology Even though Randolph is classified as a small base, the Health and Wellness Center here counted more than 3,500 visits from base personnel during the year. This was a key factor in winning the AETC Health Promotions Program award for small bases for 2006. The HAWC has also been an Air Force trendsetter in reaching more than 300 youth and parents in child obesity prevention programs. "Our team at the HAWC is really awesome," said Dr. Suzy Harrington, HAWC director, "but I have to also give credit to Team Randolph for the way they have

embraced our promotions and responded to our efforts to improve the health of so many people on base." Colonel Andrews was singled out for her work which has affected the whole Air Force nursing corps. She revised standards used by military and civilian clinics around the globe and set the course for future requirements for ambulatory care nursing professionals. The American Association of Ambulatory Nursing Care honored her with its Administrative Excellence Award for 2005. Through her work, the 12th Medical Group was recognized as number one in AETC for business planning, reaching 140 percent of its goal. Major Qureshi was selected as the premier

See Med Group on page 3

2007 Randolph Ambassadors named

By Susan Gandy
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The 12th Flying Training Wing announced the 2007 Randolph Air Force Base Ambassadors Nov 30.



2nd Lt. Jennifer Ferrer

The winners, selected by a panel of six judges, are 2nd Lt. Jennifer Ferrer from the Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron and Master Sgt. Jeff Womack, assigned to Air Education and Training Command, Computer Systems Squadron. The Randolph ambassadors will represent the base at more than 75 events throughout the year including, parades, social and military functions, hospital and school visits, and the San Antonio Fiesta celebration in April. You can also expect to see the ambassadors at on-base events like 4th of July activities and Annual Tree Lighting. The first official ambassador function is the annual visit to the Audie Murphy Veterans Hospital in February. Lieutenant Ferrer, a native of El Paso, Texas, is an occupational analyst. As an

occupational analyst, she is responsible for constructing Air Force job inventories by collecting job and task information from enlisted personnel and enlisted-equivalent civilians. Assigned to Randolph AFB since March, Lieutenant Ferrer holds a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin, and has a Master's degree in Science Research and Development from the Air Force Institute of Technology. When Lieutenant Ferrer isn't working she loves doing community service work, site seeing historical landmarks, gardening, running and sewing. In addition, she involves herself in projects such as Habitat for Humanity, Fisher House dinners, United Service Organization fundraisers, and Adopt-a-Highway clean-ups. Her latest endeavor is with the Delta Society of San Antonio as a certified member, helping improve the health of children, adults, the elderly and disabled through animal-assisted activities and therapy. Lieutenant Ferrer says she is extremely honored to have been selected as one of the



Master Sgt. Jeff Womack

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Saving for the future



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Tree lighting kicks off holiday season



Youth weight lifter breaks world records

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AIR AND SPACE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
As of Monday, 201 Team Randolph members are deployed in support of military operations around the globe.

Commander’s Action Line Call 652-5149 or e-mail randolph.actionline@randolph.af.mil

While our goal is to provide the best programs, products and services to our customers, there will be instances when people believe we could have served them better.

In those cases, I ask the individual to first contact the responsible organization to allow the unit commander or manager an opportunity to ensure professional and impartial treatment.

When those officials are unable to provide

satisfaction, the individual may contact me through the Action Line. I will ensure each Action Line call is looked into and a reply is given by telephone or in writing. I ask callers to include their name and telephone number so we may send a personal response.

Col. Richard Clark
12th Flying Training Wing commander



Letter to Airmen: Be safe this holiday season

By Michael Wynne
Secretary of the Air Force and
T. Michael Moseley
Chief of Staff of the Air Force

The holiday season gives many of us the well-deserved opportunity to relax and celebrate with friends and family. But for some the holidays can be stressful, especially when heightened by separation from loved ones. This time of year includes unique opportunities for activities and emotions that we should be both grateful for and wary of. We’re asking you once again to keep a close eye on your Wingmen – your friends, loved ones and fellow Airmen – this holiday season, thus continuing to play an important role in preserving the Air Force’s most precious resource – you.

Although we already put a lot of emphasis on safety, we can all do more to look out for our Wingmen. Eight of our precious Airmen have committed suicide this fiscal year. Many of these heartbreaking tragedies could have been avoided if Wingmen had intervened.

In FY06 we lost 45 Airmen to private motor vehicle mishaps and countless others were injured. Most of these could have been avoided with proper risk management decisions. During this season, in particular, many off-duty activities carry significant inherent risk that can easily be compounded by exceeding individual capabilities, drinking alcohol, failing to follow proper procedures or wear the proper gear, and failing to plan for winter travel.

It takes leadership – both from individuals and the chain of

command – to prevent needless losses. Leaders at all levels must focus attention on sound individual decision making, a disciplined approach to risk management, and the importance of Educating, Motivating, and Activating. Educating means building the knowledge, skills, and character to behave safely and decrease risk exposure. Motivating means giving fellow Airmen the incentive to make the right decisions. Activating means providing the tools to act safely and ensuring each Airman understands the importance of making the right choice.

Ultimately, we can all make a difference, both for the friends and families of our Airmen and for the nation as a whole. Each life we save and each mishap we prevent translates directly into preserving combat capability for our nation. We are at war and need every Airman combat ready and in the fight.

We are grateful for the friends and family who understand and support your sacrifices, and wish them warmth and comfort this season under the blanket of security you provide. And we’re grateful for Airmen who demonstrate that the defense of freedom is an unyielding endeavor and live by ideals that never take a holiday. Today, nearly 700,000 total force Airmen are answering the call to serve as part of the Joint Team, defending our nation here at home or deployed a world away. Wherever your service takes you this holiday season, be safe, proud and certain that all Americans value and appreciate you. We remain amazed by what you do every day for our great nation. You have our heartfelt thanks.

Crushing debt
How to keep holiday spending in check

By Lt. Col. William “Tank” Sherman
14th Mission Support Group
deputy commander

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. (AETCNS) – Christmas is almost here. I drove around on the busiest shopping day of the year and watched as people stood in long lines with their shopping baskets full of gifts.

I watched as people pulled out their little plastic credit cards to spend their hard earned money and even more money they have not yet earned.

In just a few short weeks all the parties will be over, the decorations will be put away and another holiday season will be behind us. But then comes the hard part – facing the bills for all that stuff you didn’t mean to buy, but just had to have.

According to the American Consumer Credit Council, the average American spends \$935 on Christmas each year and carries an average credit card debt of \$8,562. Between buying presents, squadron parties, Christmas luncheons and dinners, your credit card is nearly maxed out.

Now ask yourself the same two questions you asked last year – “How did I let this happen again?” and “How am I going to pay these credit cards off?”

First, let’s talk about preparing for next year’s Christmas spending.

It’s quite easy – don’t spend what you don’t have! Stop taking on any more debt. Sounds obvious, doesn’t it? When your ship is sinking, the first thing you have to do is plug the leak before worrying about pumping the water out.

“It’s quite easy – don’t spend what you don’t have! Stop taking on any more debt. Sounds obvious, doesn’t it? When your ship is sinking, the first thing you have to do is plug the leak before worrying about pumping the water out.”

Change your spending habits. This can be a challenge at first, but the reward is well worth it. Make a New Year’s resolution not to buy anything unless you can pay cash for it. You will be amazed how much more cash you will have available next Christmas and you will not have all those piles of credit card bills!

Another great solution for holiday shopping is layaway programs. Many stores in the community, including the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, offer layaway programs.

Layaway allows you to start shopping early and make small monthly payments in cash until Christmas. After you pay it off, you get your merchandise without having paid interest to greedy credit card companies.

Now let’s discuss paying off those credit cards and getting out of debt. Here are a couple of solutions to help you become debt free.

Very soon, we will all be filing our

income tax returns. The majority of Americans receive a refund on the average of \$1,200 a year — do not blow it! Use this money to pay off credit card debt if you have it.

Remember this: if you have a balance of just \$1,200 on your credit card from holiday gifts, it could take more than 22 years to pay off and cost you nearly \$2,600 in interest. This assumes an 18 percent interest rate and a monthly minimum payment of 2 percent.

If you have more than one credit card, start paying off the card with the highest interest rate. Make minimum payments on the other cards, and use the “extra money” to pay towards the higher-interest card. Once you get that card paid off, cut it up and cancel it, then move onto the next card.

I do not pretend to be a financial expert, but the people who do say the average American only needs two credit cards; and they should only be used when absolutely necessary. Always remember to only charge an amount that you can pay off in total when the next bill arrives.

Have patience and be determined! Don’t expect instant miracles. Trying to undo the spending habits of a lifetime in a society where we want everything now will take considerable effort. But what will make you happier: a new plasma television or no credit card bills next January?

Make this year the one to break free and rise above the sea of debt that keeps you in the perpetual charge it/pay it back cycle. It’s not easy, but it’s worth it and you can do it!

Agency Contact Numbers

Base Exchange	674-8917
Civil Engineers	652-2401
Civilian Pay	652-6480
Commissary	652-5102
EEO Complaints	652-3749
Equal Opportunity	652-4376
Family Support Center	652-5321
FW&A Hotline	652-3665
Housing Maintenance	652-1856
Inspector General	652-2727
Legal Office	652-6781
Military Pay	652-1851
Randolph Clinic	652-2933
Safety Office	652-2224
Security Forces	652-5509
Services	652-5971
Sexual Assault	
Response Coordinator	652-8787
Transportation	652-4314

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Division of the 12th Flying Training Wing in accordance with local policy and style guidance. All photos, unless otherwise indicated, are U.S. Air Force photos.

Articles for the newspaper should be submitted by noon Thursday the week prior to the desired publication date. Items can be dropped off on a PC- or Macintosh-formatted disk at the Wingspread office in room 110 of Building 100.

Articles may also be sent by e-mail to wingspread@randolph.af.mil or by fax at 652-5412.

For more information about submissions, call 652-5760.

Drug screening program yields negative results, Positive step for Team Randolph

Numerous base agencies join together to conduct Operation Early Bird

By Staff Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio
Wingspread editor

Although Randolph received no positive results recently during their early morning random drug screening, otherwise referred to as Operation Early Bird, the results are a positive step toward the wing's zero tolerance policy on drug use.

Thirty Team Randolph members were selected at random as they entered the main gate. They were issued a memorandum from Col. Richard Clark, 12th Flying Training Wing commander, ordering them to report to the Drug Demand Reduction Office and provide a urine sample. Out of the total tested, all samples were negative.

"This is a great result to get when conducting these random inspections," said Capt. Deric Prescott, 12th Flying Training Wing Military Justice chief. "The goal is to have no positives."

The Early Bird inspections are done to ensure the security, military fitness, good order and discipline of the base. The focus is the morale and welfare of the base populace as well as the deterrence of drug use among Team Randolph members.

"The inspection is very effective at deterring illegal drug use in military personnel and identifying

areas for commanders to focus their own prevention efforts," said Lt. Col. Joe Yakubik, the on-scene commander of the Early Bird inspection. "It's really all about the health and safety of our Airmen."

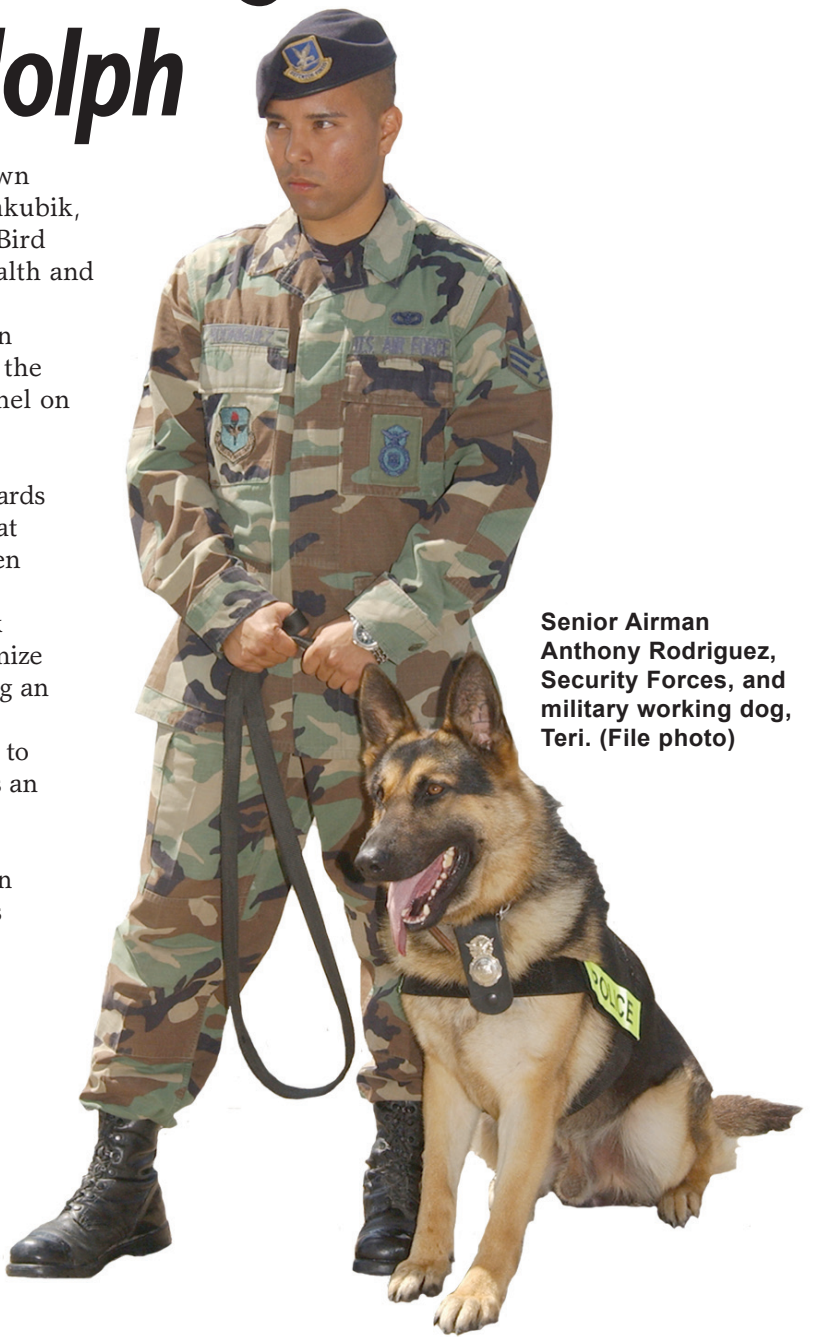
Although the inspection slowed down traffic at the gate, individuals entering the gate were patient, according to personnel on scene.

"The inspection is a great example of teamwork on a small scale: from the guards at the gate, to the legal office, to the great work from the unit First Sergeants – even the cooperation of those selected for inspection," Lieutenant Colonel Yakubik said. "The program is managed to minimize disruption at the gate while still ensuring an effective inspection."

Although the testing is primarily used to detect drug use, the inspection serves as an additional measure to ensure members aren't abusing alcohol.

"The process allows a better inspection of all people entering the base and gives base officials the chance to screen people for the effects of driving while intoxicated," said Captain Prescott. "Year round, but especially during the holidays, it's important to look for both types of substance abuse."

The inspection was the second one held at Randolph since July. The inspection is held randomly throughout the year at different locations and times.



Senior Airman Anthony Rodriguez, Security Forces, and military working dog, Teri. (File photo)

Med Group

Continued from Page 1

pharmacy manager in the command. Under his direction, the pharmacy, which is reported to require 80 percent of the Medical Group's budget, filled 275,000 prescriptions for 60,000 beneficiaries and maintained a 99.9 percent accuracy rate in supplying those services. The flight did this with a staff of one officer, 12 technicians, four students and 35 volunteers.

In addition, while deployed to southwest Asia, he served as a translator and the only contact between U.S. Army hospital corpsmen and the indigenous Pakistani population after a 6.7 earthquake.

Sergeant Flora led the operations element of the Air Force's busiest Aerospace Physiology Training Facility, directing the scheduling for 7,000 students in 22 courses and supervised more than 47,000 training hours. He supervised the training of more than 1,450 aircrews and coordinated 120 altitude chamber sessions for 4,650 students.

He also developed a memorandum of understanding to allow the local squadron of the Civil Air Patrol to use the physiology training facility as part of their cadet development program.

Sergeant Klein was chosen to take the lead in testing a new computer program that links various agencies related to hazards management. Her work was instrumental in averting some \$140,000 in contractor costs. She was also cited for her decisive leadership in a real world sulfuric acid incident in which she worked closely with the HAZMAT team to diminish exposure to the public.

In other actions, she discovered and corrected major HAZMAT procedural errors that could have resulted in thousands of dollars in fines from the Environmental Protection Agency.

Airman Padilla-Loredo was directly involved in saving nine lives during the year as an emergency services medic, as he maintained oxygen in decompression sickness cases. He also managed the largest contact lens program in AETC, assuring flight safety in the process.

Airman Padilla-Loredo also managed the Photorefractive Keratectomy program, tracking 40 aviators in pre and post-surgery progress. He volunteered to serve on the base honor guard, where he participated in the funerals of 23 retirees, seven veterans and two active duty members.

Airman Kumar won kudos as the squadron, group, wing and Team Randolph junior enlisted member for the fourth quarter of 2005.

In his work with the Aerospace Physiology Flight, he programmed the training for more than 4,500 aviators in altitude chamber flights with zero training deficiencies and no cancellations. He identified a chamber malfunction and decisively directed corrective action that saved what would have been \$100,000 in repairs.

His supervisors recognized him as an eloquent speaker and assigned him to deliver safety briefings that were cited by students for excellence. He showed himself to be number one among his peers for completing requirements for award of his 5-skill level. He also volunteered to serve on the base honor guard where he was involved in 14 details, and still took time to volunteer to help with the local Special Olympics.

Col. Paul Bennett, 12th Medical Group commander, said, "I'm proud of these people for being singled out for these awards. It takes the full team to carry out the mission successfully, but these people have earned well-deserved recognition for dedication above and beyond the norm."

Packages for the award winners have been sent forward to Air Force level. Results of that review will be announced in mid-February.



Lt. Col. Carol Andrews



Tech. Sgt. Andrew Flora



Senior Airman Abel Padilla-Loredo



Airman 1st Class Vikas Kumar

Photos of Maj. Arshad Qureshi and Tech. Sgt. Susanna Klein were unavailable.

Luke rallies to support Gilbert family

By Lt. Col. John Paradis
56th fighter Wing Public Affairs

LUKE AIR FORCE BASE, Ariz. (AETCNS) – A Luke pilot killed in action in Iraq last week was fondly remembered by Air Force leaders and friends as a warrior-patriot who made a difference in everything he did.

Maj. Troy L. Gilbert’s F-16 crashed on Nov. 27 in Anbar Province, 20 miles northwest of Baghdad, while flying a combat mission in support of ground forces. Major Gilbert deployed to Balad Air Base in September from the 309th Fighter Squadron at Luke.

“The 56th Fighter Wing extends its heartfelt condolences to the Gilbert family for such a heavy loss,” said Brig. Gen. Tom Jones, 56th Fighter Wing commander. “This news and the deep sense of sorrow we feel here should serve as a reminder to Americans about the sacrifice borne by the men and women of our Armed Forces. Major Gilbert will be remembered here as a patriot, warrior and a proud American who volunteered to serve in his nation’s Air Force.”

The cause of the crash is under investigation.

The pilot’s death has reverberated throughout the Air Force’s F-16 community. The major was the first F-16 pilot to die in Iraq since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

“Our thoughts and prayers remain with the Gilbert family as they grieve the loss of a husband, father, son, son-in-law and Air Force warrior-patriot,” said Lt. Gen. Gary North, the top U.S. Air Force commander in the Iraq and Afghanistan theaters.

Major Gilbert, who finished undergraduate pilot training in 2001, was deployed to the 332nd Expeditionary Wing at Balad Air Force Base in Iraq in September and logged more than 130 combat hours, the Air Force said. The major had been assigned to Luke since 2004 and was assistant director of operations, executive officer of wing flying, a flight commander and chief of training.

A friend who flew with the major at Aviano Air Base in Italy said the major was the best leader he had ever seen.

“The Air Force has lost a great leader and officer who was destined for greatness,” said Capt. Bart Wilbanks, a flight commander at Hill Air Force Base’s 34th Fighter Squadron. “His family is going to miss a Dad, a husband



Maj. Troy Gilbert

and we are going to miss a good friend...we don’t know what happened yet, but Troy would do what it took to save other lives.”

At Luke, members of the 309th and Major Gilbert’s former Luke squadron, the 62nd Fighter Squadron, rallied around to support the major’s family – a wife and five children.

“If there was one pilot you would build a squadron around, he was Troy Gilbert,” said Lt. Col. Pete Davey, commander of the 309th. “The best way we can honor such a great man is to now support his family.”

Family members said Troy was a man who always knew what he wanted. He wanted to be a pilot; he also wanted to travel and he wanted a family. They said he was a man of strong faith, a great father and leader. A memorial fund established by Luke’s community support organization, Fighter Country Partnership, will help the family.

See **Luke** on page 5

Twelve students graduate from ALS

Twelve senior airmen graduated from Gaylor Airman Leadership School Wednesday during a ceremony at the enlisted club.

The Airmen successfully completed 24 academic duty-days consisting of 192 hours of classroom instruction in communication skills, leadership and management, and the profession of arms.

Three of the Airmen were presented special awards during the ceremony. Senior Airman Vincent Davis of the 47th Contracting Squadron at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, earned the John L. Levitow Award while Senior Airman

Christopher Grullon of the 12th Medical Support Squadron was awarded the Leadership Award. Senior Airman Tirzah Lefeber of 12th MDSS received the Academic Achievement Award.

Other graduates were:

Senior Airman Ulysses Alvarado, 12th Aeromedical Dental Squadron

Senior Airman Crystal Colon, 12th Operations Group

Senior Airman Rashaad Compton, 12th Security Forces Squadron

Senior Airman Jesus Duque, 12th SFS

Senior Airman Terrence Galamison, Air Education and Training Command

Staff Sgt. Julie Hurt, 47th SFS
Senior Airman Kimberly Prejean, Air Force Personnel Center
Senior Airman Michael Smith, AETC

Senior Airman Mary-Ellen Warriner, 12th Comptroller Squadron
The guest speaker for the graduation ceremony was the Fifth Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Robert Gaylor.

The ALS is affiliated with the Community College of the Air Force through the College for Enlisted Professional Military Education. The graduates are awarded nine semester hours toward a CCAF degree.

Sergeant Womack is currently pursuing his Bachelor’s degree in Management of Information Systems. He also has his Community College of the Air Force degree in Information Systems Technology.

In his spare time, Sergeant Womack is a Christmas fanatic. He and his wife build one of San Antonio’s largest and most unique Christmas light displays at their home every year for their community to enjoy.

Sergeant Womack has also been a tour escort for the Public Affairs office for the past three years providing informative tours to different groups visiting Randolph.

Sergeant Womack was thrilled to hear he will represent Randolph and the Air Force in 2007.

“Being selected as a Randolph Ambassador is one of the highlights of my career,” he said. “I’ve been assigned to Randolph for a little over four years, so I’m excited to be able to tell the San Antonio community what makes Randolph special and about it’s rich history. I’m looking forward to my responsibilities as an Ambassador and to share my passion and enthusiasm for this base and the Air Force with the people I meet.”

For more information on the ambassador program, call Susan Gandy at 652-4407.

NEWS BRIEFS

Retirees recognized

Congratulations to the following people on their retirement this week: Col. Dennis Yamrose, Col. James Hollingsworth, Master Sgt. Mike Kirwan, and Col. (Dr.) Ted Rogers, all of Air Education and Training Command; and Lt. Col. George Trumbull, 12th Mission Support Group.

Holiday Tour of Homes

The 12th Flying Training Wing spouses host a “Holiday Tour of Homes” today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There are ten homes on the tour.

Visitors can begin the tour at the home of Col. and Mrs. Richard Clark at 3 South Park; the Randolph House, the newly remodeled distinguished visitor house, at 13 Military Plaza; and the home of Maj. Gen. and Mrs. Anthony Przybyslawski at 3 North Park.

For more information, call Amy Clark at 437-2680 or e-mail amypc@aol.com.

Free pancakes

AAFES hosts a pancake breakfast, free for military, Dec. 13 from 6-8 a.m. at the food court in the base exchange.

Autograph signing

Former NFL Kansas City Chiefs offensive tackle, Ricky Siglar, along members of the KC cheerleaders will be signing autographs Dec. 13 from 1-3 p.m. at the BX.

Blood Drive

The Lackland Blood Donor Center is conducting a blood drive, Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Air Force Personnel Center first floor conference room.

Finance transaction planning

The 12th Comptroller Squadron finance office urges customers processing finance-related transactions before the end of the calendar year to complete the paperwork at least two weeks before the Christmas holidays. The large number of requests for support normally worked during that period causes a backlog that can delay processing.

Veterans Business Center conference

The San Antonio Veterans Business Center hosts its sixth annual Small, Minority and Women’s Business Owners Conference today from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Henry B. Gonzales Conference Center in San Antonio. The conference is designed to help veteran-owned businesses position their firms to gain access to the Federal market place.

Awards submissions

The Alamo City Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers is accepting nominations for the 2006 annual awards. Deadline for submission is Jan. 10, 2007. The awards for individual and team accomplishments will be presented Feb. 13.

Appointment office closure

The San Antonio Consult and Appointment Management Office will be closed Dec. 21 from 10 a.m. to noon for an administrative function. Routine and emergency services will be available during this time. All appointment lines will reopen at noon for routine business.

Ambassadors

Continued from Page 1

ambassadors and is very thankful for the opportunity to represent the Air Force and Randolph AFB.

“I am excited to accept the responsibilities that have been entrusted to me and can hardly keep in my impatience to start,” she said. “I hope to spread my enthusiasm about Randolph and give back to the San Antonio community while performing my duties.”

Randolph’s other newest Ambassador, Master Sgt. Jeff Womack, hails from Hendersonville, Tennessee.

Sergeant Womack is the non-commissioned officer in charge of Standard Evaluation and Unit Deployments at the Air Education and Training Center’s Computer Systems Squadron. In his job he manages the program for network professionals to ensure personnel working on the Air Force networks are qualified. Additionally, he is the Unit Mobility Office manager, ensuring 170 CSS personnel are prepared to deploy at a moments notice.



Airman 1st Class Brent Bell

Unit: 12th Comptroller Squadron
Duty Title: Customer service technician
Hometown: Calhoun, Ga.
Hobbies: Collecting baseball cards
Goals: To make staff sergeant the first time I test and be the best Airman I can possibly be
Greatest Accomplishment: Getting an incentive flight for winning the Junior Enlisted Member of the Quarter for Wing staff agencies last year
Personal Inspiration: My mother. She never ceases to amaze me with her selflessness and her ability to make lemonade
Personal Motto: There are never certainties, only opportunities
Pet Peeve: People not pulling all the way into a parking spot at the fitness center and talking in movie theaters
Supervisor's Comments: "Airman Bell is a tremendous asset to our high-tempo Finance Customer Service section. His dedication to the job and Team Randolph's mission is clearly reflected in the high level of satisfied customers and first class quality of work. He sets the standards for his peers."

2nd Lt. Cormick Wong
12th CPTS Financial Services flight commander



Airman 1st Class Brent Bell assists a customer. (Photo by Steve White)

To submit a junior officer, enlisted member or civilian employee for the Showplace Showcase column, commanders can send an e-mail to Staff Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio at elizabeth.delvecchio@randolph.af.mil.



In December 1944, Congress created the five-star rank. The enormity of the war and the fact that several American commanders found themselves in the awkward position of commanding Allied officers of higher rank necessitated its creation.

In all the US Military, only nine men have worn five stars. How many of them were Air Force generals?
A) One
B) Two
C) Three

(see page 6 for the answer)

Luke

Continued from Page 4

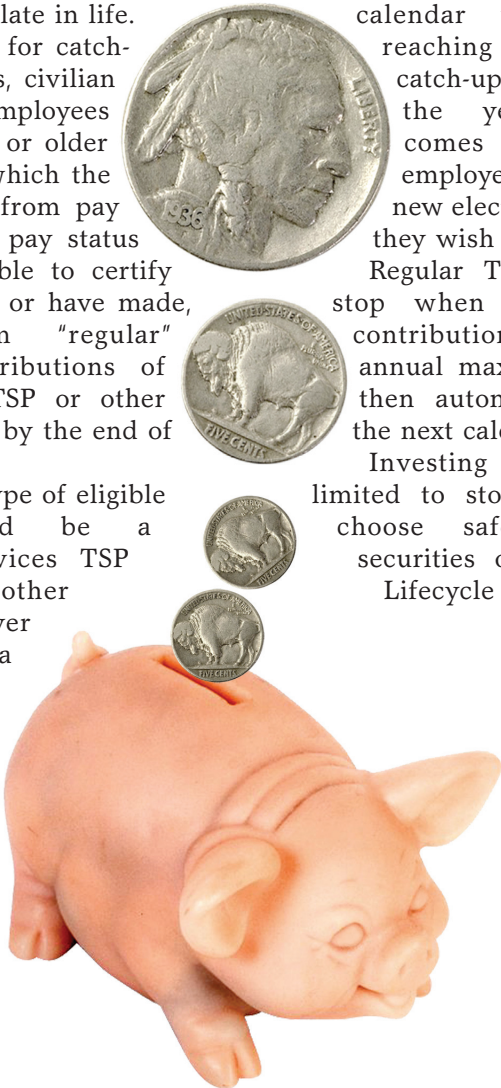
"Maj. Troy Gilbert's family has been overwhelmed by the prayers and support received from the Air Force community and friends from across the world. Words cannot express our true measure of gratitude," said a statement read to Phoenix-area news media on Sunday. "The efforts of the Fighter Country Partnership and other community groups in Arizona and other locations toward establishing the Gilbert Family Memorial Fund; the outpouring of messages; and the generosity of the Luke AFB team has been simply tremendous. While the loss of Troy has been devastating to us, we should not fail to pray for those who are still involved in the unsafe conditions in Iraq and in other parts of the world where the lives of our brave military are in danger."
People interested in making a tax deductible donation to assist the Gilbert family may write a check to "The Gilbert Family" and drop the check off at any Credit Union West Branch or mail it to Fighter Country Partnership at 500 North Estrella Parkway, Suite B-2, PMB#479, Goodyear, AZ, 85338.
For more information, contact Steve Yamamori, FCP executive director, at (602) 369-3531.
"Troy was not only a comrade but was a friend to many," said General Jones. "He served with courage and commitment and believed in duty, honor and country. He will be sorely missed by those privileged to serve with him. The Gilberts will always be part of the Air Force family, and Luke Air Force Base will always be their home."

Thrift investment board sets 2007 TSP contribution limits

(AFPCN) The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board has announced a \$500 increase in regular Thrift Savings Plan contributions to \$15,500 for 2007 elective deferral maximum contributions.
Contributions for the catch-up plan will remain at the same \$5,000 limit set in 2006.
"TSP is a long-term retirement savings plan, which everyone should consider," said Janet Thomas, a human resources specialist at the Air Force Personnel Center here. "It's a great supplement to military and civilian retirement plans."
TSP offers investors the chance for lower taxes each year they contribute, and taxes are deferred until the employee withdraws the account after retirement.
"Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck so you never have to think about it. That makes it easy to 'pay yourself first' while only investing what you deem appropriate," said Ms. Thomas.
Catch-up contributions are additional tax-deferred contributions, separate from regular TSP contributions. For those who are eligible, catch-up contributions provide a way for individuals to

secure their retirement if they began investing late in life.
To be eligible for catch-up contributions, civilian and military employees must be age 50 or older in the year in which the first deduction from pay occurs, be in a pay status and must be able to certify they will make, or have made, the maximum "regular" employee contributions of \$15,500 to a TSP or other eligible account by the end of 2007.
The "other" type of eligible account could be a uniformed services TSP account or another eligible employer plan, such as a 401(k).
Employees must also not be in the six-month non-contribution period following a financial hardship in-service withdrawal.
Catch-up contributions automatically

stop with the last pay date in the calendar year or upon reaching the maximum catch-up dollar limit for the year, whichever comes first. Eligible employees must submit a new election for each year they wish to participate.
Regular TSP contributions stop when an employee's contributions reach the annual maximum limit and then automatically resume the next calendar year.
Investing in TSP is not limited to stocks. People can choose safer government securities or invest in the Lifecycle Funds.



Military members can enroll or change their regular TSP contribution amount through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Web site at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>.



Capt. Elanah Kelly (left), Air Force Services Agency, Interim Executive Officer for the Combined Forces Air Component deputy commander, coordinates with Australian Air Commodore Kym Osley on the details of his daily itinerary. Captain Kelly is deployed to Southwest Asia. (Courtesy photos)

*Training the world's finest Airmen for tomorrow...
Deploying combat-ready warriors today.*



12th Flying Training Wing Mission Statement



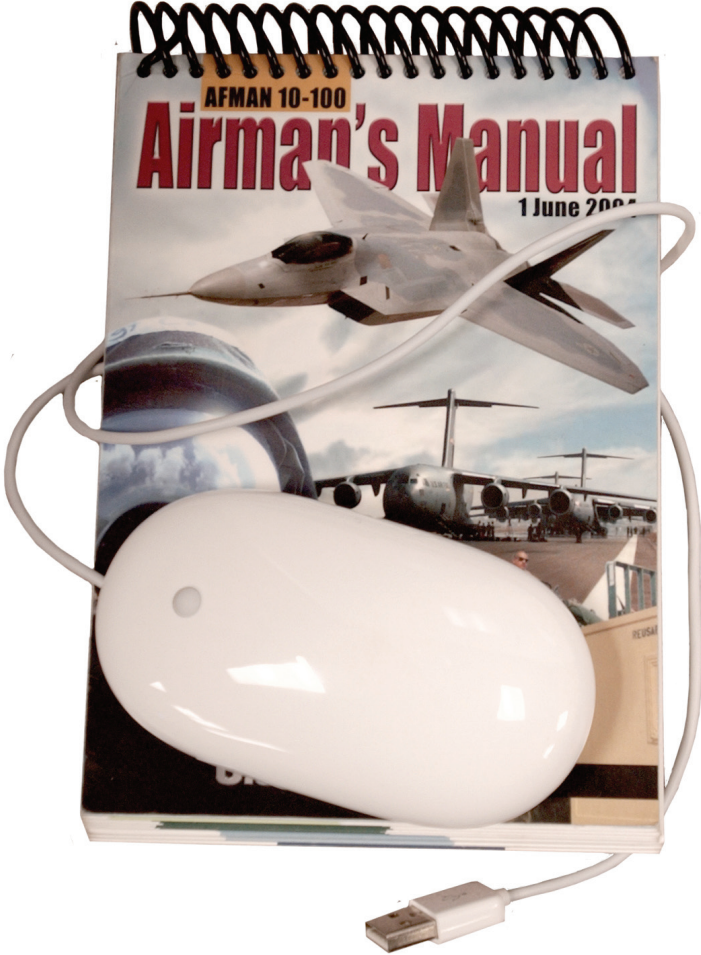
Master Sgt. Charvelle Thomas, assigned to the 12th Mission Support Group, is the superintendent of logistics and plans at a deployed location. Sergeant Thomas facilitates movement of 23,000 personnel in and out of the area of responsibility.

Airman's Manual should now be ordered online

On Nov. 14, the Air Force Distribution and Publication Office announced the following in Product Announcement 24-05:

"AFMAN 10-100, 1 June 2004, is now available electronically as well as in hardcopy. Customers requiring hardcopies of AFMAN 10-100 should no longer contact the OPR directly, but should submit their order via online ordering on th e-Publishing website."

Due to this change and effective with this announcement, installation Civil Engineer Readiness Flights can no longer order the Airman's Manual for their installation. Individuals will need to establish their own account on the e-Publishing website to order their Airman's Manual. The website to establish the account is <http://www.e-publishing.af.mil/>. Under "Services" click on "Online Ordering" and follow the directions to establish an account. Individuals only need to maintain one hardcopy of the current version of the Airman's Manual.



Not much time left for Holiday mailing

Although the date has passed to ensure mail to overseas locations such as Iraq, Afghanistan and surrounding areas is passed, there is still time to get mail to other overseas locations by Dec. 25. Military and U.S. Postal officials announced that the deadline to ensure delivery by Dec. 25 of letters and parcels to these addresses, have the following deadlines:

First class letters and cards: Monday
Express Mail Military Service: Dec 19
Priority Mail: Dec. 19

Domestic mailing deadlines are:

Parcel Post domestic packages: Dec. 13
First class parcels: Dec. 18

The Postal Department expects the peak mailing day this year to be Dec. 18, with a projection of 900 million items handled, when the average normal load is 670 million items.

For more information about packing and addressing, visit www.usps.com/supportingourtroops.



**HISTORY QUIZ
ANSWER**

A) One

Answer: A. One

Gen Henry "Hap" Arnold received his fifth star on Dec. 21, 1944. General Arnold actually received this twice. He retired from the Army in 1945, but President Truman declared him General of the Air Force when the Air Force

became a separate service in 1947.

Initially the rank was designated "Field Marshal" like its British counterpart, but supposedly Army Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall, who received his fifth star on Dec. 16, 1944, flatly refused to be known as Field Marshal Marshall.

Chapel holiday schedule

Catholic Holiday Schedule

- Today
- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
11:30 a.m., Chapel 1; 7 p.m., Chapel 2
- Dec. 20
- Communal Penance Service
7 p.m., Chapel 2
- Dec. 24
- Children’s Christmas Pageant
5 p.m., Chapel 2
• Christmas Eve Mass
7:30 p.m., Chapel 2; Midnight, Chapel 2
- Dec. 25
- Christmas Day Mass
10 a.m., Chapel 2
• Regular Saturday and Sunday services
on Dec. 23, 24, 30 and 31

Protestant Holiday Schedule

- Dec. 17
- Lessons and Carols
6:30, Chapel 1
- Dec. 24
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (family focus)
6 p.m., Chapel 1
• Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (traditional focus)
8 p.m., Chapel 1
- Dec. 31
- Combined Worship Service
10:30 a.m., Chapel 1

Jewish and Orthodox worship services are offered by the Lackland Air Force Base Chapel Community. For details, call 671-2911. A Muslim prayer room is available on Randolph. For details, call 652-6121. For other worship services, contact the Randolph Chaplain’s office at 652-6121.





By Staff Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio
Wingspread editor

The 12th Security Forces Squadron police services section and training section have combined to offer the Randolph community seminars in crime prevention.

The seminars will be held the second Wednesday of each month, at 6 p.m., at the base library.

At the seminars, security forces members will cover topics such as vehicle and identity theft, home security and seasonal crime prevention tips.

"The topics discussed will help all involved to protect themselves on and off base," said Staff Sgt. Tyron Williams, non-commissioned officer in charge of police services. "People sometimes become complacent living on Randolph. We want to remind them of things that may hurt them and teach them things to help protect themselves."

The seminars are an effort to increase community policing on Randolph, a concept that has always existed, said Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Saiz, NCOIC of SF Training.

Sergeant Saiz works as an officer with the San Antonio Police Department when he is not fulfilling his reserve commitment as an

individual mobilization augmentee assigned to the 12th Security Forces Training section. He said the SAPD has a similar program for the community at a local library.

"Some of the seminars will include presentations and assistance from local law enforcement agencies," he said. "This will hopefully give Randolph personnel some tools to use off base as well as develop a closer working relationship with the surrounding communities."

Parents are encouraged to bring their children along when the seminar topics warrant family participation.

"During the school year we will discuss bullying and gang protection," Sergeant Saiz said. "These topics may help facilitate communication between families and may help resolve issues that would not be discussed otherwise."

The seminars are designed to help members of the Randolph community protect themselves, but Sergeant Williams and Sergeant Saiz hope to gain useful feedback on how to be more accessible to the community and better serve its needs.

"If anyone has ideas for possible topics to discuss, we can try to work them into this year's schedule," Sergeant Williams said. "If we can't get them in this year, we can work to add new topics to next year's list."

For more information about the seminars, contact Sergeant Williams at 652-5968 or by e-mail at tyron.williams@randolph.af.mil.

MOVIES



Randolph Movie Theater

652-3278

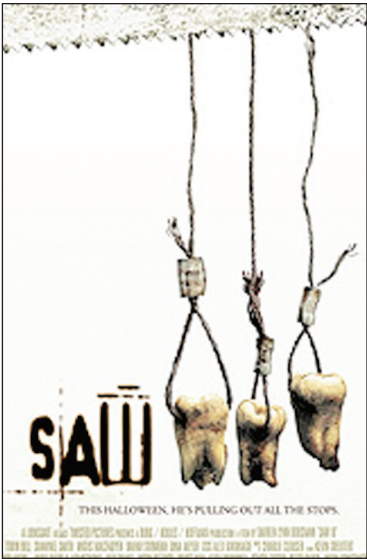
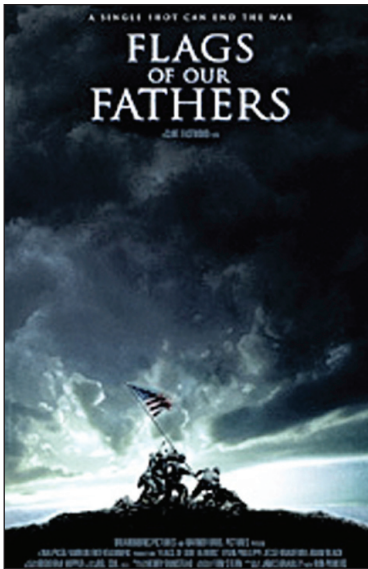
Adults - \$3.50

Children (11 yrs. and under) \$1.75



“The Santa Claus 3: The Escape Clause”
Saturday & Sunday – Noon
Tim Allen, Peter Boyle
Rated G, 98 min.
Scott Calvin, better known as Santa Claus, tries to raise his son in the North Pole, while feuding with the obnoxious Jack Frost, a local villain trying to steal the glory of the Christmas season.

“Flags of Our Fathers”
Saturday – 3 p.m.
Ryan Philippe, Adam Beach
Rated R, 132 min.
As a group of U.S. Marines win one of the most crucial battles of World War II at Iwo Jima, some of them raise the American flag on Mount Suribachi, their patriotism making them heroes to a war-weary nation back home.



“Saw III”
Sunday – 3 p.m.
Tobin Bell, Shawnee Smith
Rated R, 107 min.
A doctor is kidnapped by the Jigsaw Killer forced to keep the dying murderer alive long enough for her fellow victim to complete his assigned task. But neither victim realizes Jigsaw has a much bigger plan in store for them.

SERVICES

LODGING
652-1844

Lodging available
Customers can reserve rooms at Randolph Lodging for families and friends visiting over the holiday.
For details, call 652-1844.

YOUTH CENTER
652-2088

December holiday camp
Today is the last day to register for Holiday camp which takes place December 18-29. A deposit of \$30 is required for each child for each week of camp attended.

ENLISTED CLUB
652-3056

New Year’s party
The enlisted club hosts a New Year’s party Dec. 31 at 7 p.m. in the Ballroom with a buffet served until 9 p.m. The Texas Chili Peppers will perform.
The Nite Club opens at 9 p.m., with

light hors d’oeuvres served until 10:30 p.m. and a breakfast buffet at 12:05 a.m. Nitelife will provide the entertainment.
Tickets are on sale now for members and will be available for all others Tuesday.
For details, call 652-3056.

Children’s Christmas party
A holiday get together for children of club members up to 12 years old takes place Dec. 10 from 3-5 p.m. in the Nite Club. Cash prizes and complimentary snacks will be offered.

OFFICERS’ CLUB
652-4864

Kids Night Out buffet
A children’s holiday buffet takes place Saturday from 6-8 p.m. Entertainment and goody bags are provided. All valid DoD ID cardholders are invited.
For details and cost, call 652-4864.

New Year’s event
The officers’ club hosts a New Year’s party in the ballroom Dec. 31 at 7 p.m. The Ked Parrock Orchestra will perform.

A Twist of Fate will perform in the Sky Lounge.
Tickets are now on sale and reservations are required. Lodging reservations may also be made at the same time as party reservations. The cost per room is \$27.
For details and price information, call the club at 652-4864.

Prime rib night
The officers’ club offers a prime rib dinner Fridays from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Customers can choose an 8, 12, or 16 ounce cut of prime rib with potato, veggies, soup and salad bar, with rolls.

Sunday brunch
A Sunday brunch is offered from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$14.95 for members and \$17.95 for nonmembers.

Information, Tickets & Travel
652-5640

Santa suit rentals
The information tickets and travel office has complete Santa Claus suits available for \$25 a day. Reservations must be made in person.

ARTS and CRAFTS CENTER
652-2788

Santa’s Workshop
A Santa’s Workshop takes place Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon. There will be several holiday themed crafts to choose from.
Prices and age limit vary based on the activity.
For more information, call 652-2788.

Holiday gifts
The arts and crafts center has a variety of Christmas items for sale including personalized ornaments and angels. Customers can also work on handmade holiday gifts.
For details, call 652-2788.

WOOD SKILLS CENTER
652-7422

Children’s class
The next children’s class is Dec. 16 from 10 a.m. to noon. Children and parents can build an indy race car. The cost is \$5. Customers should sign up one week prior. Space is limited.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Yard sale
The Women’s History Month Committee sponsors a yard sale Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Schertz Veterans of Foreign Wars building on FM 78.
For details, call Staff Sgt. Kristie Simpson at 565-3924.

Base housing decorations
Holiday decorations in base housing may be displayed now through Jan. 15. Holiday lights may be turned on at dusk and should be turned off during the day.
Attach lights to your home using only glue, tape or hooks produced

specifically for outdoor lights. Never nail, drill or screw through the electrical cording of holiday lights. Home occupants are responsible for any damage to the exterior of the house, including the paint or gutters, caused by displaying holiday decorations.
Rooftop decorations are not authorized in base housing.

Models and entertainers needed
In celebration of Black History Month, the Black Cultural Awareness Association will sponsor a fashion show in February and is looking for models and entertainers to participate.
To volunteer, call Capt. Kim Wallace at 565-0578 or e-mail Kimberly.wallace@randolph.af.mil or Chief Master Sgt. Sharon Rhodes at 652-7161 or e-mail Sharon.rhodes@randolph.af.mil.

CHAPEL SERVICES
652-6121

Randolph Chaplain Service will accept resumes for the Catholic Music Director position through Dec. 29.
For details call 652-6121 or e-mail 12FTWHC.mailbox@randolph.af.mil.

EDUCATION SERVICES
652-5964

Montgomery GI Bill enrollment
People needing copies of their DD Form 2366, Montgomery GI Bill Basic Enrollment, or DD Form 2366-1, MGIB Increased Benefit Contribution Program, can obtain them by faxing a

signed request to AFPC/DPSOMI at 565-4021.
The request should be typed or printed and include the full name, SSN, return mailing address or return fax number and complete signature block with appropriate signature.

Graduation pictures
The Community College of the Air Force Graduation Ceremony pictures are ready to be picked up at the education office.
For details, call 652-5964.

ERAU
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University’s Spring One Term in-residence classes start Jan. 8, 2007. Students can register at the Randolph office by appointment Dec. 18-21 or on a first come, first serve basis Jan. 2-5.



Susan Smith, Randolph elementary choir director, coaches the choir through some Christmas carols. (Photos by Steve White)

Christmas is here!

Randolph ushered in a new Christmas season with a tree lighting ceremony Nov. 30 in the base theater. Although the weather outside was frightful, the celebration inside was delightful.



Children from the elementary school jump for candy.



Danielle Hitchens tells Santa what she wants for Christmas.



Abby Oppersteny sings a carol.



Brooke and Claire LaMontia pose for pictures with Santa.

First AF female pilot in combat reflects on career

By Carl Bergquist
Air University Public Affairs

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, Ala. (AFPN) – As she attends Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, the first female pilot in the Air Force to fly in combat, reflected on some of her career experiences so far.

An A-10 Thunderbolt II pilot, Lt. Col. Martha McSally is also the first female in the Air Force to serve as the commander of any combat aviation squadron, to include fighters and bombers.

“The first role of women as military flyers was during World War II as Women Airforce Service Pilots, an organization disbanded after the war,” Colonel McSally said. “When women resumed flying in the Air Force, a law prohibited them from flying in combat,” she said. “In 1984, I was attending the U.S. Air Force Academy and told my first flight instructor that I was going to be a fighter pilot. He just laughed, but after Congress repealed the prohibition law in 1991, and I was named as one of seven women who would be put through fighter training, he looked me up and said he was amazed I had accomplished my goal.”

Colonel McSally was selected for fighter pilot school in 1993, but it was another year before she actually arrived. After completion of her training, she was deployed to Kuwait in January 1995.

“I was a young and new fighter pilot and here I was in Kuwait,” she said. “On my first flight over Iraq, we were enforcing the no-fly zone, and as I crossed the Kuwait/Iraq border, I’ll never forget the feeling I had that I had asked for this and now I was here.”

In July 2004, she took command of the 354th Fighter Squadron at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz. — becoming the first woman to command a fighter squadron.

One of her most memorable missions was also the first time she deployed weapons in combat. Her squadron was called in to take out insurgents in very rugged terrain in Afghanistan, but the bad guys were surrounded by good guys.



Lt. Col. Martha McSally stands with her A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft. The colonel is the first female pilot in the Air Force to fly in combat and to serve as a squadron commander of a combat aviation squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo)

“We needed to identify all the many friendly positions working with a controller on the ground. We got eyes on the area, and needed to then ensure we had the right target area, given the friendlies were so close and in multiple directions in a winding steep canyon,” Colonel McSally said. “Friendlies were not climbing up the canyon to get away from the enemy and get outside the safe distance of our gun. I shot some rockets to confirm the enemy location, and we honed the target.”

Then, things got even more complicated.

“On my last rocket pass, my heads up display failed

with all of our computerized weapons sites. I had to rely on the very archaic backup called ‘standby pippier,’ which was a hard site. I needed to quickly get ready to shoot the gun manually, where I had to be at an exact dive angle, airspeed, and altitude when opening fire in order to be accurate. We destroyed the enemy on several passes. We train for this type of malfunction, but I never would have imagined shooting the gun in standby pippier in combat like this.”

Colonel McSally said the squadron won the 2005 Air Force Association’s David C. Shilling award that is given for the best aerospace contribution to national defense.

“During the squadron’s time in Afghanistan, we flew just short of 2,000 sorties, accumulated more than 7,000 combat flight hours, and expended more than 23,000 rounds of 30 mm ammunition,” she said. “It was an amazing environment there. A friendly country but plenty of insurgents trying to thwart the country’s progress, and it was our job to support those friendly to us.”

Colonel McSally said a good example of that support involved the elections in Afghanistan. The 354th FS had to provide coverage for voters and also protect convoys bringing votes back to the capital to be counted.

Colonel McSally, who has been in the Air Force 18 years and pins on full colonel in December, said she has made the group commanders list and is waiting to see where that leads. She said she is grateful to all the women who served before her and made it possible for her to become an Air Force pilot.

“But, I hope I’m a role model to both men and women because we are a fighting force and should not be concerned with differences between us,” Colonel McSally said.

Air War College educates selected senior officers to lead at the strategic level in the employment of air and space forces. The curriculum focuses on coalition warfighting and national security issues, with emphasis on the effective employment of aerospace forces in joint and combined combat operations.

SPORTS and FITNESS

Hot pursuit



Lonnie Barton (left), Air Force Recruiting Service, attempts to sack the 562nd Flying Training Squadron G-HAD quarterback in a flag football game Tuesday. AFRS defeated 562nd FTS G-HAD, 20-0. (Photo by Melissa Peterson)



Intramural Bowling Standings

as of Monday

Team	W	L
AETC/FM	68	28
AFSVA	62	34
AFPOA	60	36
AETC/A4/7	58	38
AETC/CSS	57	39
MSG	54	42
CS	54	42
STINKBUGS	52	44
RATS	50	46
JPPSO	50	46
DFAS	49	47
HERE TO	48	48
AFSAT	48	48
AFMA	47	49
SFS	46	50
AFOMS	46	50
CPTS/MSS	46	50
AFPC	42	54
AETC/LG2	42	54
MED GP	34	62
12TH MX	34	62
SVS	32	64
SCRUBS	30	66
BYE	43	53

TEAM SCRATCH SERIES

Team	Score
RATS	2815
AFPC	2733
JPPSO	2471

TEAM HANDICAP SERIES

MSG	3314
SFS	3267
AETC/LG2	3241

TEAM SCRATCH GAME

Team	Score
AFPOA	984
AETC/CSS	942
STINKBUGS	877

TEAM HANDICAP GAME

Team	Score
SVS	1167
AETC/FM	1116
HERE TO	1112

SCRATCH SERIES

Men	Score
Will Greer II	682
Jimmy Johnson	647
Bob Vickers	626

Women	Score
Sheila Lawrence	637
Judy Smith	533
Lori Trainor	506

HANDICAP SERIES

Men	Score
Chris Goelz	734
Mike Rouse Jr.	716
Tom Sobey	705

Women	Score
Sharon Rector	689
shelley Willoughby	656
Deb Hayes	633



Ready for lift off

By Staff Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio
Wingspread editor

It is like lifting the weight of two refrigerators. For Jason Deeb, a Randolph Fitness Center employee, squatting 556 pounds took some work, but it will not be the most he will lift. As far as he is concerned, it was just the beginning.

The 17-year-old has been power lifting for only a year. He started training to help him with football, but soon discovered his natural talent in the sport would take him further than he thought.

"I started playing around with heavier weights, seeing how much I could lift," he said. "I surprised myself and decided to train more seriously."

Deeb has been involved in sports ever since he was a kid. He was also involved in martial arts.

At a martial arts training event, about five years ago, he met Gene Bell, a power lifter who has earned numerous world records and is in the Air Force Hall of Fame for power lifting, whose son was also at the event.

The two met again earlier this year, in the Randolph Fitness Center, and the topic of power lifting came up.

"He asked if I had ever considered competing in power lifting," Jason said. "That's when he started helping me train."

Deeb said he had not considered power lifting as something to train and compete in, but once he gave it a shot he developed a passion for the sport.

He started to train in June, but stepped up his training in Sept. when he found out he was invited to compete in

the World Power Lifting Congress competition in New York on Nov. 2.

All of his hard work paid off.

Jason not only won the competition in his age group, he broke two WPC records by bench-pressing 380 pounds and squatting 556.

He completed the dead-lift, as his last lift, and although he lifted 512 lbs, it was not a record.

"I did my best," he said. "But, I know with more training and dedication to the sport I can do better next time."

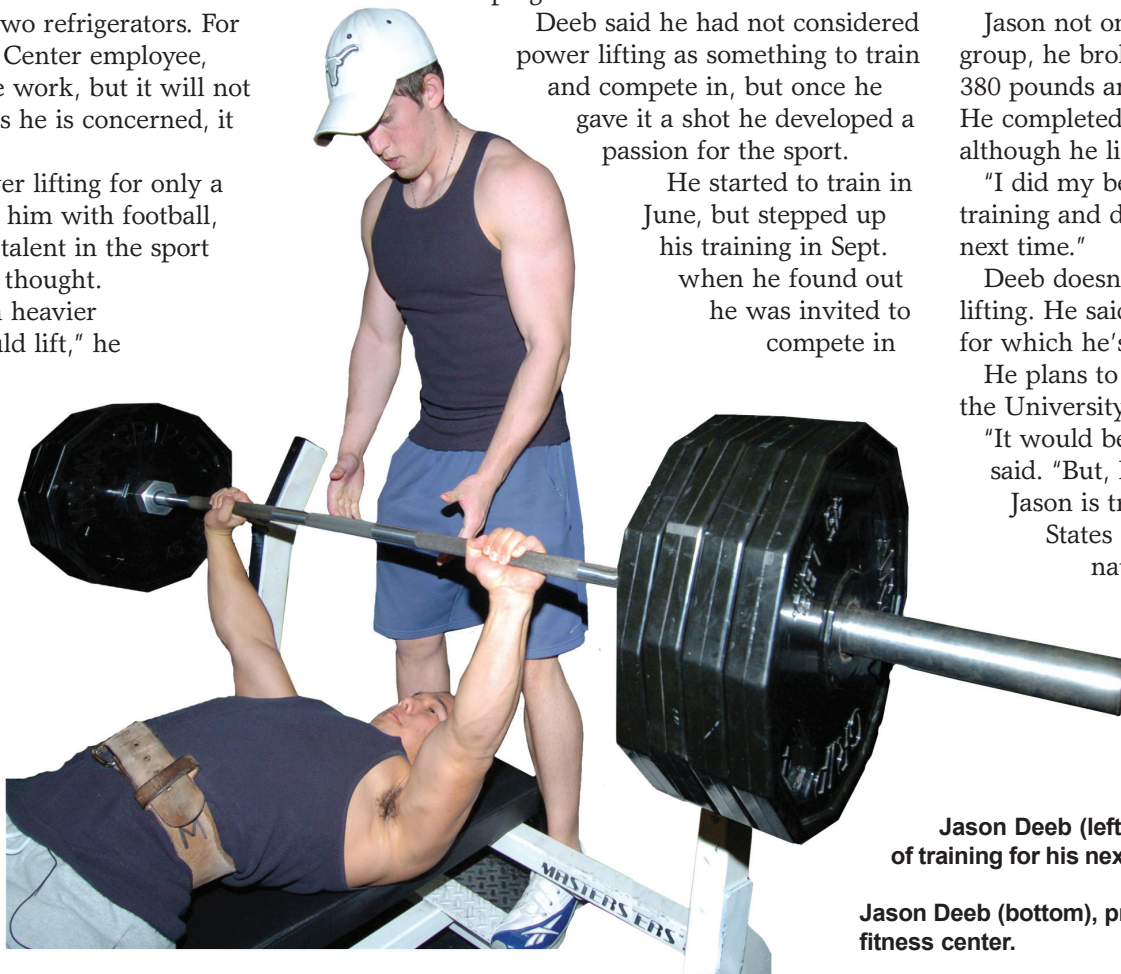
Deeb doesn't carry any long-term goals in power lifting. He said he aims to win whatever competition for which he's training.

He plans to pursue a degree in physical therapy at the University of Texas.

"It would be nice to get a lifting scholarship," he said. "But, I'm not sure if they are offered."

Jason is training now to compete in the United States of America Power Lifting high school nationals in March. He hopes to qualify for the International Power Lifting World Championship.

"I've learned through all of this that if you stay consistent with your training, anything is possible," he said.



Jason Deeb (left), bench presses 405 pounds as part of training for his next competition. (Photos by Dave Terry)

Jason Deeb (bottom), prepares to dead lift 405 pounds at the fitness center.

